

Atty. Docket No. CV/04-001

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed on September 29, 2007. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. Independent claims 1, 17, 26 and 83 and various claims dependent thereon remain in this application.

Prior Art Rejections

1. The Office Action rejected various claims under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,099,502 to Duchon et al. ("Duchon"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claims 1, 26 and 83 specify, *inter alia*, that the valve actuator is adapted to automatically operate and close the multi-position valve to isolate the pump device and fluid flow from a patient and stop flow of the injection fluid to the patient at substantially any pressure or flow rate generated by the pump device.

As set forth in the Office Action, Duchon discloses a manifold 26 adapted to connect a low-pressure system and a high-pressure system to a patient. However, the manifold 26 in Duchon differs from the claimed inventions in at least two respects. First, the manifold 26 is not automated or automatically controlled by a valve actuator of the fluid control device or an injector system. Rather, the manifold 26 contains a pressure-activated spool valve that is spring-biased to a first position that connects the low pressure system to the patient, but is movable (by fluid pressure acting against the spring force of the spring) to a second position that connects the high pressure system to the patient. Duchon does not disclose a separate valve actuator that moves the valve between different operating positions.

Second, Duchon only discloses that the manifold operates in two positions, each of which creates a fluid path to the patient. In the first position, the manifold 26 connects the low pressure system to the patient to allow low pressure fluid injection into the patient or to allow blood pressure monitoring of the patient. In the second position, the manifold 26 connects the high pressure system to the patient to allow high pressure fluid injection into the patient. Duchon does not disclose that the manifold 26 has another position in which there is no fluid connection to the patient to "isolate the pump device and fluid flow from a patient and stop flow of the injection fluid to the patient", as claimed above.

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For at least the above reasons, Applicants submit that Duchon does not anticipate the claimed inventions and that the rejection based thereon should be withdrawn.

2. The Office Action rejected various claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over Duchon in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,057,081 to Sunderland ("Sunderland"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 17 specifies, *inter alia*, a drip chamber comprising a body having a projection that extends longitudinally along the drip chamber body . . . and is in operational contact with the fluid level sensor. As set forth in the Office Action, Duchon does not address the claimed invention and Sunderland discloses a drip chamber 42 having a projection 50. However, the projection 50 in Sunderland is a disk that sits at the top of the drip chamber. The disk 50 does not longitudinally extend along the body of the drip chamber and is not in operational contact with the fluid level sensor, as is claimed.

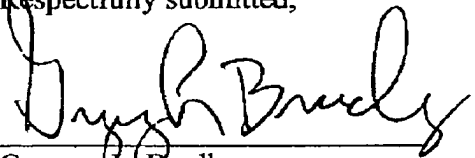
For at least the above reasons, Applicants submit that a combination of Duchon and Sunderland does not render obvious the claimed inventions set forth above, and that the rejection based thereon should be withdrawn.

Applicants submit that the remaining obviousness rejections based on the Osborne and Gollinski patents are moot based on the amendments and arguments presented above with respect to pending independent claims 1, 17, 26 and 83.

Based on the above, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance.

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Respectfully submitted,



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